

**KINGS COUNTY LOCAL ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (LAC) FOR THE PROPOSED
CHEMICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC. (CWMI), KETTLEMAN HILLS FACILITY
HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY EXPANSION PROJECT**

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 05-10

MINUTES

Vern Grewal, Chairperson
Aletha Ware, Vice-Chairperson
Ceil Howe Jr.

Jim Verboon
Mary Lynn Starrett
Kelly Deming

May 29, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting of the Kings County Local Assessment Committee was called to order by Vice Chairperson Aletha Ware at 6:10 p.m. on May 29, 2008, in the Kettleman City Elementary School Cafeteria, 701 General Petroleum Ave., Kettleman City, California. This meeting was transcribed by a certified court reporter. The transcript is attached.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vern Grewal, Aletha Ware, Kelly Deming, Mary Lynn Starrett, Ceil Howe Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Verboon, one vacancy

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Zumwalt, Chuck Kinney, Terri Yarbrough, and Kyle Sand (County Counsel)

CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Mike Hogan (Hogan Guiney Dick LLP)

VISITORS PRESENT: Lars Johnson, Guadalupe Alatorre, Angela Carillo, Maria Andrade, Maria Radilo, Nancy Corona, Clare Torres, Ana Martinez, Biatriz Cenda, Irene Garcia, Maria Alatorre, Maura Andrade, Maria Limon, Rebeca Limon, Virno Marquez, Fernando Marquez, Gabriela Rodriguez, Josie Salinas, Vencentia Pulido, Victoria Soloria, Martha Torres, Brian Jacobs, Jovita Vincent, Ashely Foshay, Chris Speelman, Helen Luibel, Alicia Jacobo, Rosa Maldonado, Griselda Garcia, Josie Salinas, Irene Garcia, Beatriz Ceoda, Bradley Angel, Miguel Alatorre, Marciala Mares-Alatorre

SUMMARY OF THE AGENDA:

Mr. Zumwalt announced that a translator was available and asked if there was anyone needing translation services and summarized the agenda.

UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES:

Maricela Mares-Alatorre inquired about the difference between a regular and a special meeting and how the meeting was noticed. Mr. Zumwalt explained the difference and stated that the meeting was noticed as required by law.

Bradley Angel stated he felt the LAC process was illegal and a violation of the Tanner Act and asked the LAC members to resign their positions and asked Kings County to recall the committee. Mr. Angel also asked for the contact information for the Environmental Group represented by the committee members and what the group has done in the last fifteen years.

Ingrid Brostrom stated she felt the brochure from Chemical Waste Management was improper. She also questioned whether a quorum of the committee was present at the local In-and-Out Burger. Mr. Zumwalt stated only one committee members was present. She also stated that the LAC is an unlawful committee and does not meet the requirements of the Tanner Act. She also asked the members to resign.

Mary Bell Nzegwu spoke regarding the composition of the LAC and stated she felt that the lack of Latinos on the committee violated the Civil Rights Laws. She also asked that the committee members resign their positions.

The following people spoke regarding concern for the formation of the committee, health issues in Kettleman City, no Latino representation on the committee, and the time and location of the meetings: Maria Limon, Guadalupe Alatorre, Miguel Alatorre, Lars Johnson, Alicia, Victoria Solorio, Angela Carrillo, Ana Martinez, Jose Rodriguez, Rebeca Limon, Maria Alatorre and Delores Alatorre.

Ms. Solaria asked the committee who was supporting them. Mrs. Ware responded that she has lived in the community for 40 years and Ms. Starrett provided an overview of her background in the nursing field.

Mr. Angel inquired as to how to contact the environmental group that Kelly Deming and Jim Verboon are associated with. Ms. Deming responded as to why there is no web site and how the organization operates.

Mr. Vern Grewal arrived at 7:00 p.m. and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Angel questioned the committee members regarding their qualifications. Mr. Grewal gave his background and stated the reasons he applied for a position on this committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Zumwalt stated that the minutes were not ready and would be included in the next meeting agenda. Mr. Zumwalt gave a summary of the May 22, 2008 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Open forum for citizen participation concerning the measures that should be taken by the Kettleman Hills Facility to protect the public health, safety, welfare and environment of the County, and the special benefits the Kettleman Hills Facility will provide the County as compensation for the local costs associated with operation of the proposed project.

Miguel Alatorre, representing Kids Protecting Our Environment, stated nothing can be done, there is no benefit and don't expand.

Guadalupe Alatorre stated she would like to see the dump taken care of forever not just 30 years after it's closed.

Maricela Mares-Alatorre asked the County to put aside the money and protect the people of Kettleman City. She asked the committee to take only the scientific evidence and look at the Draft EIR.

Mr. Grewal asked what kind of services would the community like to see if the project was to be approved.

Martha Torres said stop it, buy our homes and let us move.

Bradley Angel stated that the EIR wasn't adequate. He also stated that you can't always trust that regulatory agencies are going to protect you and sited an example of a meeting being held in East Palo Alto regarding Romic. He urged the committee to look into Chemical Waste Management's compliance history, not just the Kettleman Hills Facility.

Anna Turner spoke regarding a toxic waste site in East Palo Alto that was closed down through public participation for polluting the community for years.

Mr. Grewal asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak, seeing nobody come forward, he closed the public comment session.

MISCELLANEOUS

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the LAC is scheduled for Thursday, June 12, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Kings County Board of Supervisors Chambers.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

STAFF COMMENTS:

None

COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

None

Mr. Sand announced there is an opening on the committee and if anyone was interested he would see that they were provided an application. He also stated that if anyone would like notification of the meetings to sign the attendance sheet and include their address.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
KINGS COUNTY LOCAL ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE



William R. Zumwalt, Committee Secretary